Vehicle Registration Plates

2345. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had suggested means of tender for selection of manufacturers for the sale of Vehicle Registration ' Plates in various States for a period of 15 years mentioning the security reasons; and

(b) the other countries where security features are used on Vehicle Registration Plates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) The Ministry has suggested the tender route for selection of manufacturers for sale of High Security Vehicle Registration Plates in various States as it is a transparent method to ensure the availability of these plates to vehicle owners at best prices. Ministry have NOT suggested that the tender be valid for a period of 15 years.

(b) As per information available, the countries where some of the security features of the registration plate are in use are Armenia, Austria, Columbia, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Iran, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Sri Lanka, Oman, Tanzania, Uganda, Uruguay, USA and Zambia etc.

National Highiways in Assam

2346. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highways constructed in Assam during the last five years;

(b) the details of the expenditure incurred thereon during this period; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government for constructing new National Highways in the State during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) This Ministry does not construct new National Highways. State Roads are declared as National Highways. In the